

bioBlitz

NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC



Rocky Mountain National Park

August 24 & 25, 2012

BioBlitz Comes to Rocky...

Biological diversity, or biodiversity, is the variety of life on earth. National parks are sanctuaries of biodiversity. Every year, millions of visitors come to Rocky Mountain National Park to catch glimpses of plants and animals they don't find at home. Scientists, too, often choose the protected settings of national parks in order to study species in relatively undisturbed environments. National parks provide a unique window into the rich variety of the natural world, because they are often the last strongholds for species that have disappeared from other parts of the world due to development, habitat fragmentation, climate change, or other threats.

Since 1997, All Taxa Biotic Inventories, or ATBIs, have been conducted in various national parks around the country to document all the species found inside their boundaries. Over the years, the ATBI has given birth to the idea of the BioBlitz. Part rapid biological survey and part public outreach event, a BioBlitz brings scientists, volunteers, park visitors, and students together to record a snapshot of the biodiversity in a designated area over a short amount of time.

Recently, the National Geographic Society has partnered with the National Park Service to bring a large-scale BioBlitz to a different national park each year during the decade leading up to the National Park Service Centennial in 2016. Washington, D.C.'s Rock Creek Parkway, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, Biscayne

National Park, and Saguaro National Park have all hosted BioBlitz events which catalogued thousands of species.

On August 24 and 25, BioBlitz 2012 will provide scientists, park visitors, and students with the opportunity to discover and experience the biodiversity of Rocky Mountain National Park. Whether it's a park visitor seeing a black-billed magpie for the first time

or a scientist finding a fungus new to science, discoveries of all kinds will be

celebrated. Excursions with scientists into the park, interpretive programs, and activities at the Biodiversity Festival at the Estes Park Fairgrounds will all highlight the role of science in helping us understand the complex web of life to which all species belong.

Species biodiversity

provides beauty and opportunities for recreation. It contributes to the natural systems that help regulate climate, air quality, and the cycles upon which all life, including ours, is dependent. Biodiversity provides building material and ingredients for medicine. Conserving biodiversity may have benefits we do not yet even realize.

To preserve biodiversity in our parks and in our own backyards, we must first discover the variety of life that exists. Our future is closely tied to understanding and preserving the richness of life around us. A BioBlitz is merely the first step in this important process. The appreciation and preservation that must follow these discoveries is up to you.



BioBlitz:
A 24 hour
species
inventory

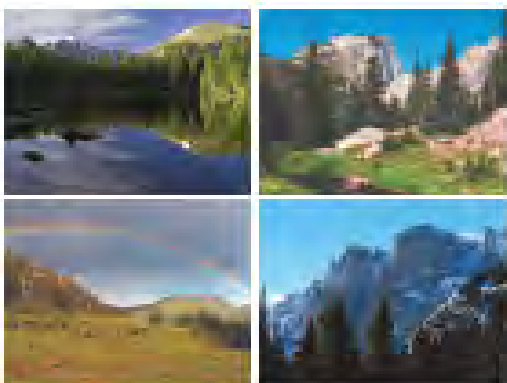
What's Inside

What is a
BioBlitz?

Biodiversity
Festival Map &
Events Schedule

Public Field
Excursions

Biodiversity
Ranger
Programs



www.natgeomaps.com

NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC

GEAR UP FOR YOUR NEXT TRIP TO
ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK
WITH OUR DETAILED, WATERPROOF, AND EASY-TO-USE TRAIL MAP

Available at fine retailers throughout Colorado and beyond.



Call Park Information (970) 586-1206
with your questions. Available 8-4:30 Daily.



<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/bioblitz>

<http://www.nps.gov/romo>

Biodiversity Festival

Estes Park Fairgrounds
August 24 & 25, 2012
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Join the National Geographic Society and Rocky Mountain National Park for a Biodiversity Celebration!

Located at the Estes Park Fairgrounds, 1209 Manford Avenue, the Biodiversity Festival is free and open to the public and does not require advance registration.

Free on-site parking is available at the Fairgrounds.

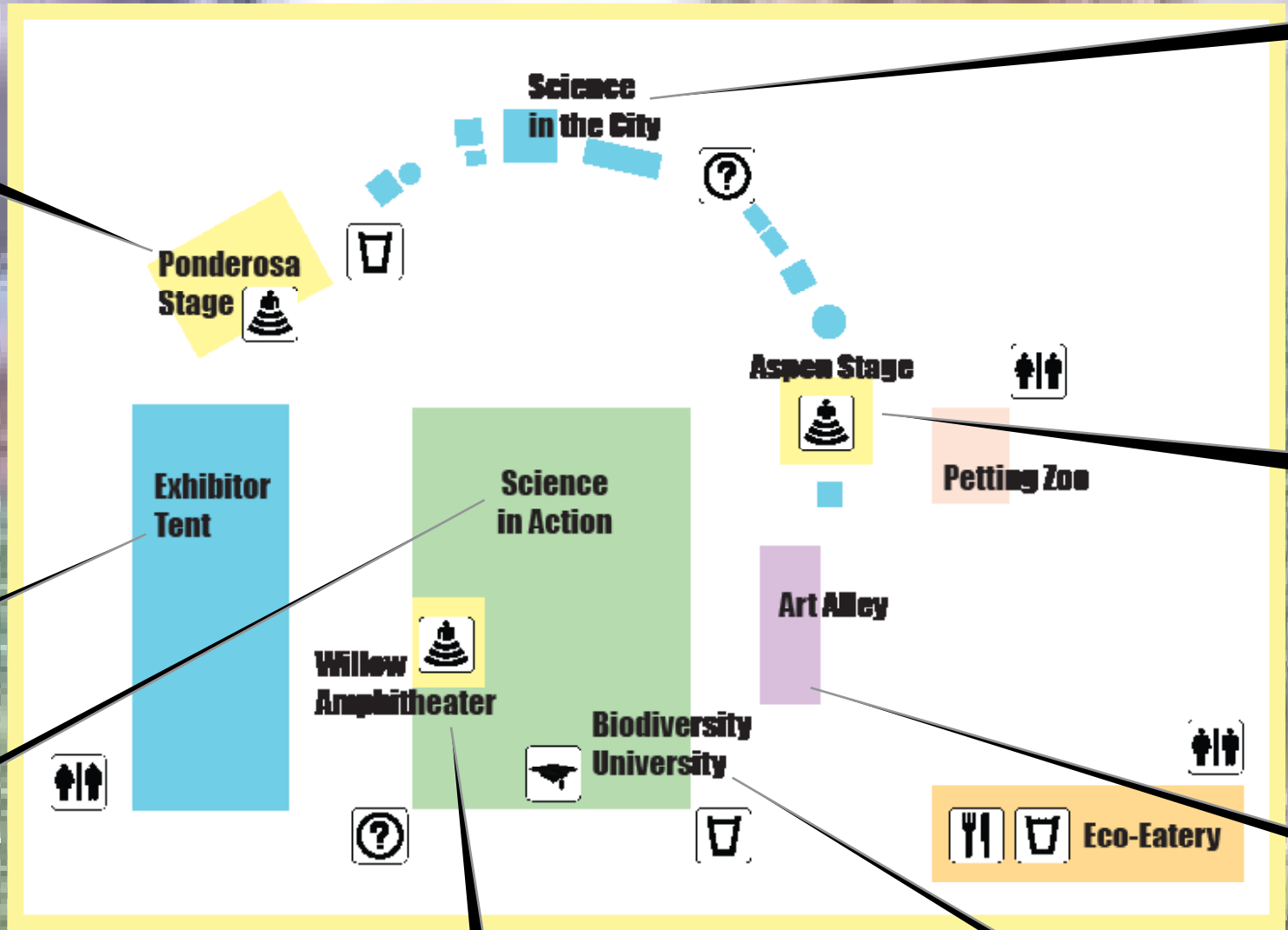
Ponderosa Stage	
Friday 10 a.m. Playground Theatre A hilarious green adventure 11:30 a.m. Opening Ceremonies Let the BioBlitz begin! 1:00 p.m. Raptor Summit Meet and learn about live raptors 2:00 p.m. Billy B The natural science song and dance man 3:00 p.m. Raptor Summit Meet and learn about live raptors 4:00 p.m. Jim Salestrom Beautiful mountain melodies	Saturday 10:30 a.m. Puppet Show Dead Trees are Full of Life 11:30 a.m. Billy B The natural science song and dance man 12:30 p.m. Average Joe's Game Show Everyone can play, and anyone can win! 1:30 p.m. Jim Salestrom Beautiful mountain melodies 2:30 p.m. Billy B The natural science song and dance man 3:30 p.m. Closing Ceremonies The BioBlitz ends with a species tally

Exhibitor Tent

Enjoy fun, hands-on activities in our exhibitor tent and throughout the festival!

Science in Action

Look through a microscope to discover life in tiny places, and touch some real specimens from the field! Get your questions answered by scientific experts.



Science in the City

Biodiversity is everywhere—including your own backyard! Learn how to explore the living things in your neighborhood.

Aspen Stage	
Friday 1:00 p.m. Puppet Show Join the mountain lion on his big adventure! 2:00 p.m. Average Joe's Game Show Everyone can play, and anyone can win! 3:00 p.m. Adventures in Camera Trapping The inside scoop on saving wildlife 4:00 p.m. Beetlemania With "Isabeetle," a Beatles-crazy pine beetle	Saturday 10:30 a.m. Backyard Naturalists Where art and science meet technology 11:30 a.m. Tools of Adventure Discover the tools explorers use 12:30 p.m. Nature Storytime Go on a bear 'hunt' in this bilingual storytime 1:30 p.m. Beetlemania With "Isabeetle," a Beatles-crazy pine beetle 2:30 p.m. Last Grizzlies of the Gobi A sneak peek at a National Geographic article

Willow Amphitheater	
Friday 10 a.m. Poetry in the Rockies - A selection of Rocky Mountain poems 1:00 p.m. Macrophotography - How do tiny organisms interact? 2:00 p.m. Jungle Lady - Creepy crawly critters! 4:00 p.m. Jungle Lady - Creepy crawly critters!	Saturday 10:30 a.m. Jungle Lady - Creepy crawly critters! 11:30 a.m. Wild Wolverines - Explore the world of the wild wolverine 12:30 p.m. Meet Your Neighbours - Photographing wildlife in your neighborhood 1:30 p.m. Jungle Lady - Creepy crawly critters! 2:30 p.m. Poetry in the Rockies - A selection of Rocky Mountain poems

Art Alley

Unleash your inner artist in Art Alley, where kids ages 3 to 103 can express their creativity by making biodiversity themed art projects.

Biodiversity University

Earn a "degree" in Biodiversity Science by completing fun activities! When you "graduate," you will receive a fun, educational gift.

Public Field Excursions

This is a sample of the available opportunities:

Friday - August 24

- ◆ 2:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m., Alpine Community Vascular Plants, Bacteria, or Mega and Mini Mammals
 - ◆ 2:45 p.m. - 5:15 p.m., Subalpine Forest Butterflies, Terrestrial Insects, Vascular Plants, or Trees
 - ◆ 3:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m., Ponderosa Pine Forest Shrubs, Ants, Baby Black Flies, or Willows
 - ◆ 3:15 p.m. - 5:45 p.m., Lake Community Birds, Diatoms, Terrestrial Insects, or Trees
 - ◆ 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m., Aspen Forest Vascular Plants, Bees, or Water Bugs
 - ◆ 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., Lake Estes Bird Walk
- Join us as we explore the wide variety of bird life found in the riparian areas around Lake Estes.

Saturday - August 25

- ◆ 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m., Lake Estes Bird Walk
- Join us as we explore the wide variety of bird life found in the riparian areas around Lake Estes.
- ◆ 12:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m., Alpine Community Fungi, Vascular Plants, or Mini Flora
 - ◆ 12:15 p.m. - 2:45 p.m., Subalpine Forest Bacteria, Ferns, or Mega and Mini Mammals
 - ◆ 12:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m., Ponderosa Pine Forest Terrestrial Insects, Trees and Beetles, Invasive Plants, or Water Bugs
 - ◆ 12:45 p.m. - 3:15 p.m., Lake Community Diatoms, Zooplankton, Water Bugs, or Water Plants
 - ◆ 1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m., Aspen Forest Vascular Plants or Birds

After Hours at the Festival

Bring a blanket and join us at the Estes Park Fairgrounds for a fun evening with live music, a presentation by National Geographic and International League of Conservation Photographers, and an outdoor movie!

Friday, August 24, 7 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.

Tell us about your BioBlitz experience on Rocky's Facebook Page!



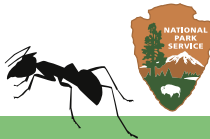
The BioBlitz offers exciting opportunities for you to join a scientist in the field. Learn how species are sampled and identified, and participate in a hands-on inventory. At each Discovery Site, scientists will focus on a different taxonomic group, such as birds, insects, or plants.

All activities are free, but space is limited. First-come, first-serve registration will be available at the Biodiversity Festival on the day of the event. Participants will then be bused to each site.

Field activities are best suited for ages 8 and up; children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Activities will cover less than one mile and last about 1 hour and 15 minutes, plus travel time.

Please make sure to wear close-toed hiking shoes, long pants, a hat, sunscreen, and sunglasses. Bring a daypack with extra clothing, a rain jacket, snacks, and a bottle of water. Most importantly, bring your curiosity!

Biodiversity Ranger Programs - In The Park



Alpine & East Side

All children must be accompanied by an adult
Note: Programs may be cancelled at any time due to high winds or lightning

		Length	Location	FRI	SAT
Tundra To Trees - Explore the biodiversity of multiple life zones as you hike from alpine heights down through old-growth forest. Plan to carpool for this moderate 4-mile hike. Bring warm clothing, rain gear, water and snacks.		4 hour hike	Milner Pass parking lot	9 a.m.	
Here Come the Beetles! - Pine bark beetles are rapidly transforming our forests. Learn what this means for all species who share the park.		20-30 minute talk	Fall River Visitor Center		10 a.m.
Little Critters of Rocky - Squirrels, rabbits and bats: find out about the lives of Rocky’s smaller animals and the critical roles they play.		30 minute talk	Fall River Visitor Center	2:30 p.m.	2:30 p.m.
Critter Clues - Put your detective skills to the test, uncover clues and learn about the diverse animal life in West Horseshoe Park. Fun for the whole family!		1 hour walk	West Horseshoe Parking Lot	1 p.m.	1 p.m.
Biodiversity Stroll - The concept of biodiversity takes on a whole new meaning when you discover it in a mountain meadow! Join us for this exploratory stroll.		1 hour walk	West Horseshoe Parking Lot	3 p.m.	3 p.m.
BioBlitz at Beaver Meadows: Evening Programs - Enjoy an evening program about how biodiversity touches every aspect of life in Rocky Mountain National Park! A different program each night.		1 hour talk	Beaver Meadows Visitor Center	7:30 p.m.	7:30 p.m.
Moraine Park and Aspenglen Campground Evening Programs - Check at Moraine Park and Aspenglen campgrounds or any east side park Visitor Center for topics. A different program each night in each campground.		1 hour talk	Moraine Park & Aspenglen Campground Amphitheaters	8:30 p.m.	8:30 p.m.
Astronomy in the Park - Is the universe home to the ultimate in biodiversity? Join a park ranger and local astronomers to discover the magic of the night sky. Dress warmly; bring binoculars and a flashlight.		1/2 hour program followed by viewing	End of Upper Beaver Meadows Road	8 p.m.	
High Country Tails - Come learn about amazing alpine animals and what they can tell us about living life on the mountaintops.		30 minute talk	Alpine Visitor Center		2 p.m.
Biodiversity on the Wing! - Join a bird walk in a rich mixture of aspen, willow and pine woodlands. Bring binoculars and a field guide if you have them.		1.5 hour walk	East Alluvial Fan Parking Lot	7 a.m.	7 a.m.

EXPLORE
Rocky Mountain National Park with National Geographic

Sponsored by Canon

National Parks
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

Available on the App Store

Apple, iPhone® and iPad® are trademarks of Apple Inc., registered in the U.S. and other countries. App Store is a service mark of Apple Inc.

West Side

All children must be accompanied by an adult
Note: Programs may be cancelled at any time due to high winds or lightning

		Length	Location	FRI	SAT
The Colorado: Secrets At The Source - This film tells the magnificent story of the Colorado River, key to biodiversity in America’s most dramatic high country and canyon lands.		50 minutes	Kawuneeche Visitor Center		9 a.m.
A Glimpse of Paradise - This easy 3-mile round trip hike passes Adams Falls and leads to distant views of a special research natural area.		2.5 hour walk	East Inlet Trailhead	9:30 a.m.	
Behind the Scenes - Join a ranger to view and discuss a series of short videos documenting how specialists at the park address challenges like elk management, pine beetles, and bear safety.		1 hour discussion	Kawuneeche Visitor Center	10:30 a.m.	
Junior Ranger Program - Join a ranger for activities about the biodiversity of Rocky and earn your Junior Ranger badge.		1 hour program	Kawuneeche Visitor Center		2 p.m.
The Long and the Short - Visit a research enclosure to learn more about elk, moose, and beaver.		1 hour, 1 mile walk	Colorado River Trailhead	2:30 p.m.	
Skins and Things - Examine the skins, skulls, antlers, teeth and bones of park mammals.		40 minutes	Kawuneeche Visitor Center	3:30 p.m.	3:30 p.m.
BioBlitz Evening Programs - Enjoy an evening program about the Colorado River and its impact on biodiversity. A different program each night.		1 hour presentation	Kawuneeche Visitor Center	7 p.m.	7 p.m.
Timber Creek Evening Program - Check at the campground or Kawuneeche Visitor Center for topics.		1 hour presentation	Timber Creek Campground Amphitheater	8:45 p.m.	8:45 p.m.
Holzwarth Historic Site - Buildings are open 10:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. daily. Discuss how early settlers adapted to this high mountain habitat. This is a great family activity!		Drop-in tour	Holzwarth Historic Site parking area	10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Take **bio**blitz Home!

Project Noah
www.projectnoah.org

National Geographic Fieldscope
www.education.nationalgeographic.com/education/program/fieldscope

Encyclopedia of Life
www.education.eol.org

Biodiversity discovery doesn't end here...

Your backyard and neighborhood parks are full of new discoveries!

The websites listed above can help you with a BioBlitz in your own backyard and community.